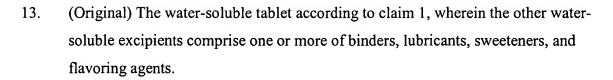
- (Original) A water-soluble tablet comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of metformin, one or more water-soluble sugar alcohols, and one or more other watersoluble excipients, wherein the tablet dissolves in less than about three minutes in about 30 ml of water to give a clear solution.
- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1, wherein the tablet dissolves in water in less than about one minute to give a clear solution.
- 4. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1, wherein the tablet is dissolved in about 20 ml of water.
- 5. (Cancelled)
- 6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Currently Amended) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 61, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of metformin comprises hydrochloride.
- 8. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of metformin comprises up to about 95% weight by weight of the tablet.
- 9. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1, wherein the one or more water-soluble sugar alcohols comprise one or more of sorbitol, mannitol, spray-dried mannitol, xylitol, erythritol, isomalt, hydrogenated starch hydrolysates, and combinations thereof.
- 10. (Cancelled)
- 11. (Cancelled)
- 12. (Cancelled)



- 14. (Cancelled)
- 15. (Cancelled)
- 16. (Cancelled)
- 17. (Currently Amended) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1613, wherein the lubricant comprises polyethylene glycol.
- 18. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 17, wherein the polyethylene glycol is pulverized/micronised.
- 19. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 18, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a particle size of from about 90% less than 250μ.
- 20. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 17, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of from about 3500 to about 20,000.
- 21. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 20, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of from about 3500 to about 8000.
- 22. (Cancelled)
- 23. (Cancelled)
- 24. (Currently Amended) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1613, wherein the lubricant comprises sodium propionate.
- 25. (Cancelled)
- 26. (Cancelled)

- 27. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1, wherein the one or more water-soluble sugar alcohols comprise xylitol and spray-dried mannitol, the lubricant comprises micronised polyethylene glycol, and the tablet dissolves in about 15ml of water in less than about one minute to give a clear solution.
- 28. (Original) The water-soluble tablet according to claim 1, wherein the tablet further comprises one or more additional antidiabetic agents selected from sulfonyl urea, glucosidase inhibitor and thiazolidinedione.
- 29. (Original) A process for the preparation of a water-soluble tablet, the process comprising:
 - (a) mixing together a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of metformin, one or more water-soluble sugar alcohols, and one or more other water-soluble excipients to form a mixture, and
 - (b) compressing the mixture to form a tablet,

wherein the tablet dissolves in less than about three minutes in about 30 ml of water to give a clear solution.

- 30. (Cancelled)
- 31. (Cancelled)
- 32. (Cancelled)
- 33. (Cancelled)
- 34. (Original) The process according to claim 29, wherein the mixture is formulated into a tablet by direct compression.
- 35. (Original) The process according to claim 29, wherein the mixture is granulated prior to compression.
- 36. (Cancelled)

- 37. (Cancelled)
- 38. (Cancelled)
- 39. (Cancelled)
- 40. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 2829, wherein the one or more water-soluble sugar alcohols comprise one or more of sorbitol, mannitol, spray-dried mannitol, xylitol, erythritol, isomalt, hydrogenated starch hydrolysates, and combinations thereof.
- 41. (Original) The process according to claim 29, wherein the other water-soluble excipients comprise one or more of binders, lubricants, sweeteners, and flavoring agents.
- 42. (Cancelled)
- 43. (Cancelled)
- 44. (Cancelled)
- 45. (Cancelled)
- 46. (Cancelled)
- 47. (Original) The process according to claim 28, wherein the one or more water-soluble sugar alcohols comprise xylitol and spray-dried mannitol, the lubricant comprises micronised polyethylene glycol, and the tablet dissolves in about 15 ml of water within about one minute to give a clear solution.
- 48. (Original) The process of claim 29, wherein the mixing further comprises mixing one or more additional antidiabetic agents selected from sulfonyl urea, glucosidase inhibitor and thiazolidinedione.
- 49. (Original) A method of treating diabetes mellitus comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a water soluble tablet comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of

metformin, one or more water-soluble sugar alcohols, and one or more other water-soluble excipients, wherein the tablet dissolves in less than about three minutes in about 30 ml of water to give a clear solution.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49, wherein the tablet further comprises one or more additional antidiabetic agents selected from sulfonyl urea, glucosidase inhibitor and thiazolidinedione.